



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL DRUG, FIREARM CRIMES

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for violating federal firearms and narcotics laws.

Jarvis J. Henderson, 31, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to 16 years and six months in federal prison without parole.

On Sept. 21, 2003, **Henderson** pleaded guilty to two counts of a federal indictment. Today, he was sentenced to 14 years in federal prison without parole for conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine and two years and six months in federal prison for possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The sentences for each count are to be served consecutively, for a total of 16 years and six months in federal prison, Graves said.

Henderson admitted that he conspired to possess with intent to distribute the crack cocaine from May 30, 2001, to April 2, 2002. **Henderson** also admitted that he was in possession of several firearms in furtherance of the crime of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute crack cocaine. **Henderson** admitted that he was in possession of a Hi-Point .40 caliber handgun, a Rossi .357 caliber revolver, a Colt .45 caliber handgun and a Hi-Point 9 mm rifle on June 5, 2001, in Kansas City. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any person to possess a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime.

Henderson was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 23, 2002, in Kansas City. He is the second convicted defendant to be sentenced in this case.

Co-defendant **Vershon M. Haywood**, 34, of Kansas City, was sentenced on July 23, 2003. On Sept. 6, 2002, he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine from May 30, 2001, to April 2, 2002. Additionally, **Haywood** admitted that he, too, possessed a firearm in furtherance of the crack cocaine conspiracy.

Haywood possessed a FEG 9 mm semi-automatic handgun on March 28, 2002, in Kansas City, Graves said.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. It was investigated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow